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Washington, Dec. 1 (UPI) .... In an interview, [Attorney General John N. Mitchell] also dismissed speculation that J. Edgar Hoover will step down as director of the [FBI] on his 77th birthday, Jan. 1 ....

Would Mr. Moover resign on his next birthday, after 47 years in office? "I don't know," Mr. Mitchell said. "You'd better ask his doctor." Is Mr. Hoover not well?

"As far as I know he's fine," the Attorney General said. "But I think the President has said, and of course it's the President's decision, that as long as Mr. Hoover is in good health and performs in the usual outstanding manner, that Mr. Hoover would be the director."